

**REMARKS**

This application is a national phase filing under 35 U.S.C. 371 of International Application No. PCT/EP03/03448. Claims 1-6 were presented in the priority application. As the result of a Preliminary Amendment filed with the application on Dec.3, 2004, new claims 7 and 8 were presented. Accordingly, claims 1-8 were pending and under consideration in the present application. In the present amendment, claims 1-8 are canceled, and new claims 9-13 are presented. Claims 9-13 are presently pending in the application.

The claims, as amended above, recite a method for the prevention, inhibition and treatment of sepsis by blocking or removing the activity of anti-AG<sub>M1</sub> antibodies and/or anti-G<sub>M1</sub> antibodies in a patient at risk for sepsis. The method comprises inactivation of these antibodies either by mechanical removal or by administration of an agent, for example asialoganglioside, which can block the antibodies. Support for new claims 9-13 can be found throughout the specification and in original claims 1-7.

***Double Patenting***

Original claim 6 is provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 8 of copending US application no. 10/512,934. Claim 6 is cancelled above, thereby rendering the provisional double patenting rejection moot.

***Claim Rejections-35 USC § 101 and § 112***

Claims 1-5 and 7-8 are rejected under 35 USC § 101 and § 112 as being improper process claims and indefinite. Claims 1-8 are cancelled above; the rejections under 35 USC § 101 and § 112 are therefore, moot.

***Claim Rejections-35 USC § 102***

Claim 6 is rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Maysinger et al. In view of the above amendment, the rejection is now moot.

For the foregoing reasons, the claims are believed in condition for allowance and such action is respectfully requested. Should the Examiner require clarification of any of the above, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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